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THE CROSS-TIME CAPER™ EXCALIBUR™

**SEARCH
FOR A
HERO?**



I HOPE TO
TRAVEL, HELP
CHILDREN, AND
WORK FOR
WORLD PEACE...



"THEY'D LONG ASO FORGOTTEN
WHEN THE PARTY STARTED AND
DIDN'T THINK A WHIT ABOUT
IT ENDING."

FROM THE CRUCIBLE-A CAPTAIN?

A STAN LEE PRESENTATION, STARRING EXCALIBUR!

BY
CHRIS CLAREMONT
AND
ALAN DAVIS

WITH:
PAUL NEARY - INKER
JADE MOEDE - LETTERER
NEL YOMTOV - COLORIST
TERRY KAVANAGH - EDITOR
TOM DECALCO - PARTY POOPER
CHRIS CLAREMONT AND
ALAN DAVIS - CREATORS

"IN TRUTH, MOST
HOPEO IT NEVER
WOULD--THEY WERE
ALL HAVING TOO
MUCH FUN!"

A MOMENT,
STORY-TELLER.

THIS SCENE
IS SIGNIFI-
CANTLY AT
VARIANCE...

...WITH
PREVIOUS
DATA
TRANSFER

AND I'M GRATEFUL,
NOBLE SENTIMENTS FOR
YOUR FOREBEARANCE--

...IN PERMITTING THIS
BRIEF--BUT UNAVOIDABLE
--INTERUPTION.

DELIGHT,
TALE SO FAR,
IS.

NOT
DESIRING
A BIT TO
MISS?

NOR
SHALL YOU,
I
PROMISE.

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OUR HEROES--A BAND OF MUTANT ADVENTURERS WHO CALL THEMSELVES EXCALIBUR.

MUTANTS BEING PEOPLE BORN WITH ENHANCED PHYSICAL OR PSYCHIC POWERS THAT SET THEM SIGNIFICANTLY APART FROM THEIR BASIC GENETIC PHENOTYPE.

OUR SETTING--ONE OF AN INFINITE NUMBER OF EARTHS, ARRANGED LIKE PEARLS ON A CROSS-UNIVERSE STRINGS.

EXCALIBUR'S TRYING TO RETURN TO THE ONE THAT'S THEIR RIGHTFUL HOME.

A QUEST FAR MORE EASILY BEGUN THAN SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED.

THEY, LIKE THIS WORLD, HAD FALLEN PREY TO A FOUL INVADER...

...WHO FEEDS ON THE SPIRIT, THE PRIMAL LIFE-FORCE OF PEOPLE AND PLANET BOTH!



"THEIR FOE APPEARED ACTUALLY AFRAID OF PHOENIX."

"SO, GAMBLING THERE MUST BE GOOD REASON..."

"... HE GAVE HER TO IT."

"KNOWING THAT IF HE'D GUESSED WRONG, THEY'D PAY FOR HIS MISTAKE WITH THEIR LIVES."

"BUT IT WASN'T EXCALIBUR WHO DIED THAT NIGHT."





RACHEL--

--WHY ARE YOU OUT HERE, ALL BY YOURSELF?

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?

NOTHING, MEG, JUST...

...LOOKING...

ENJOYING THE SILENCE.



ARE YOU JOKING? IT'S A MADHOUSE IN THERE!

DIFFERENT KIND OF SILENCE.

I'VE NEVER KNOWN SUCH... QUIET.

WITHOUT MY PSI POWERS AS PHOENIX...

I'VE JUST MY PHYSICAL SENSES, LIKE EVERYONE ELSE.

...I CAN'T HEAR ANYONE'S THOUGHTS.

IT'S SUCH A STRANGE SENSATION, BEING WEAPBLIND.



BUT IF THAT DISGUSTING SLIME-THING WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR SAPPING US OF OUR POWERS, THEN ITS DESTRUCTION MUST SURELY RESTORE THEM.

MAKES SENSE, BUT IT WASN'T HAPPENED YET.

WHATEVER I USED TO FINISH THAT CRITTER WAS EVIDENTLY ALL I HAD.

AND I, FOR ONE, AM IN NO HURRY TO GET IT BACK.



DON'T YOU WANT TO GO HOME?

SOMETHING'S NOT QUITE RIGHT.

THIS ISN'T OVER YET.

WE'RE NOT DONE.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING, RACHEL, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

OFF BY MYSELF FOR A BIT.

TELL THE OTHERS I'M SORRY...

...IF THIS MUCKS UP ANY PLANS.



BUT IT'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO.

BUT IF ANYTHING HAPPENS--

--RACHEL, WITHOUT YOU--

--WE'RE TRAPPED HERE!



A TRAP FOR SOME,
THOUGH IS FREEDOM
FOR OTHERS.

THE CHANCE TO
START FRESH WITH
THE CLEANEST
OF SLATES.

RACHEL'S, YOU SEE,
IS THE UNIQUE ANGUISH
OF THE SOLE SURVIVOR,
THAT MOST TERRIBLE
KIND OF LONELINESS
AND PAIN.

"SMALL
WONDER
SHE'S
HAUNTED."

"OR THAT
SHE CAN
AWAY."

MADE ALL THE
WORSE BECAUSE THE
SAME PEOPLE WHO
ARE NOW HER DEAR-
EST FRIENDS ALSO
EXIST IN HER
MEMORIES...

...AS
GHOSTS.

...SOME OF
WHOM, SHE
HELPED
KILL.

"TO TRY HER HAND AT ORDINARY
THINGS, TO BE--EVEN IF ONLY
FOR A MERE MOMENT--"

"--AN ORDINARY GIRL."

GONNER
STAYIN'NER
FOREVUR?

YES!

OUT, GIRL,
NOW, AND I
MEAN IT!

TIME
T' TAKE Y'R
MEDICINE?

THIS ISN'T
ME.

PART O' Y',
RACHEL--LUV,
AN' THASSA
FACK?

AS MUCH,
I WAGER,
AS THE SPIKES
AN' LEATHER.

BEIN' THE ONE
DON'T MEAN DENYIN'
T' OTHER.

PEOPLE'S, LIKE
CRYSTAL, TRUE
BEAUTY LIES
INNA FACETS.

DO WE
HAVE TO?

NOW--
LET'S SHOW
OFF Y'RS!

PRESSIN' UP PROPER, LIKE A
LADYGIRL SHOUL'D, THAT'S BUT
THE FIRST STEP.

'TIS ONLY
THE SATURDAY
NIGHT SHINDIG.

POOR PEAR,
ARE Y' REALLY
THAT SCARED?

IT'S JUST, WITH--
OUT MY PSI-POWERS
I FEEL SO...

...NAKED.

TOO USED T'
LETTIN' THEM DO
THE WORK, Y'
ASK ME.

BEIN' AWARE O' EVERY
LITTLE THOUGHT DON'T
GIVE Y' THE INSIGHT T'
KNOW WHAT THEY
MEAN, OR HOW T'
COPE.

MADE LIFE TOO
BLESSED EASY
FOR Y'.

WORKIN' MY FIELDS
WITH ME, THESE PAST
WEEKS, Y'VE HAD T'
RAISE A PROPER
SWEAT...

...WHERE
BEFORE Y'R
TELEKINESIS
WOULD'A DONE
THE JOB.

IS THAT
SO WRONG?







"ON THE FAR SIDE
OF THE WORLD
FROM KYMR'S
FLYING CITADEL--

"--IN A LAND
AS DREAD AS
IT IS DISTANT--

"--LIES THE
SLAYER
STRONGHOLD.

"AND IF ANY ON THIS
EARTH ARE OF A
PIECE WITH EXCALI-
BUR'S LATE SLIM-
DID FOE--

"... IT'S THEIR HIGH COUNCIL."

NEWS
AIN'T GOOD,
CHAPS.

MOOD
OF LIBERTY AN'
JUSTICE SWEEPIN'
THE PLACE EVEN
AMONGST OUR
OWN.

SHAME.

DEVIL YOU
SAY...

ANY MORE O'
THAT SPLENDID
PORT?

THESE EXCALIBUR WALLAHS HAD
THE NERVE TO CALL A GREAT
TOURNAMENT MEAN THEY SAY T'
CHOOSE A CHAMPION--

--A HERO
WHOL' DEFEND
WEAK FROM
STRONG...

..AN' STAND
UP FOR RIGHT
AGAINST MIGHT.

I NEED NOT TELL YOU,
FELLOW CAPTAINS OF
THE CLOUDS, WHAT
THAT MEANS--

THEN, SIR,
I SUGGEST
WE DEAL
WITH THEM.

HEAR
HEAR,
NIOBL.

BUT
HOW?

PUT FORTH
OUR OWN
CANDIDATE--

--AND MAKE
CERTAIN HE'S
THE ONE WHO
WINS.

BY HOOK
OR BY SPOOK,
EH?

PRECISELY.

AS A
MATTER OF
FACT...

...I'VE TAKEN
THE LIBERTY OF
INFILTRATING AN
ASSASSIN INTO
THE RANKS OF THE
CONTESTANTS.

HE AWAITS
OUR WORD TO
STRIKE!

THEN GIVE
IT--

--SPEEDILY,
AND WITH OUR
BLESSING!

BRAVO!

"WHILE RACHEL HAD
BEEN OFF ON HER
WALKABOUT..."

:-BURRRP:-

WELL SAID, YOUNG
FROBISHER.

TOO SMART FOR
WORDS, THAT ONE...

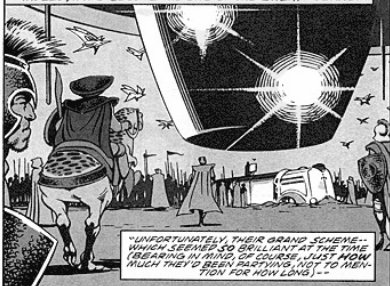
MORE PORT,
CURSE YOU.

"...HER TEAMMATES HAD BEEN MORE THAN A LITTLE BUSY."



"THEY'D FOUND THEIR TRAIN-- THEIR MEANS OF TRAVELING BETWEEN DIMENSIONS-- AND RETURNED TO IT."

"INDEED, IT HAD BECOME THE SITE OF THE GREAT TOURNEY."



"UNFORTUNATELY, THEIR GRAND SCHEME-- WHICH SEEMED SO BRILLIANT AT THE TIME (BEARING IN MIND, OF COURSE, JUST HOW MUCH THEY'D BEEN PLANNING NOT TO MENTION FOR HOW LONG)--"

"--TO GIVE THIS WORLD..."



"...A SORELY NEEDED HERO..."

"IN THIS DESERT S'IN--"

"--ASSUMING KYMR MOVES HER THUMPING GREAT CITY OUT OF THE WAY--"

"--THESE SOLAR PANELS SHOULD PROVIDE ALL THE ELECTRICITY WE NEED."

"...SOMEONE WHO EMBODIED THE BEST OF ITS PEOPLE..."

"PITY SHE APPEARS TO BE OTHERWISE ENGAGED."

"THE COW."



"NICE OUTFIT, ALISTAIR-- HAVE YOU NO SHAME?"

"...A BEACON FOR THEIR HOPES AND DREAMS..."



"...WASN'T WORKING OUT QUITE THE WAY THEY'D ANTICIPATED."

"I'M REALLY SORRY, I'VE NO IDEA WHETHER THIS IS THE PROPER THING TO DO."



"WE'RE JUST SORT OF MAKING THINGS UP AS WE GO ALONG."

"OH LORD, I FEEL LIKE SUCH A POMPOUS TWIT..."

"IT'S WHAT YOU DO BEST, MY LOVE."

"WELL, AHEN: ANYWAY, OUR HOPE IS 3, AHEN: ..."

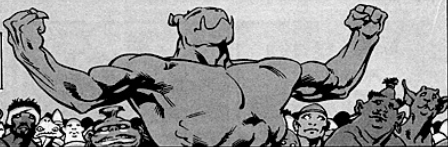
"...FATE WILL SORT OF REACH UP AND GRAB THE LUCKY DEVIL BY THE THROAT, SAME AS SHE PIP WITH ME."

"FAILING THAT, MAY THE BEST ENTITY WIN."

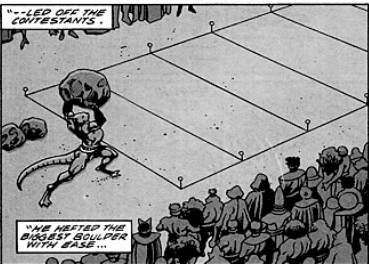
"THE TOURNEY OPENED
WITH A TEST OF STRENGTH."

"LOCKHEED--"

"--FIRST
SELECTMAN
OF THE
DEMOCRATIC
PRAGIC
CONFEDERACY--"



"--LED OFF THE
CONTESTANTS."



"HE HEFTED THE
BIGGEST BOULDER
WITH EASE..."

"...BUT AS HE
TOSSED IT (PRE-
SUMABLY TO-
WARDS THE
NEIGHBORING
CONTINENT)..."



"SCATTER!"

"SHE
AIN'T
MOVIN'..."

"SHE'LL BE
SQUISHED..."



"BETTER
HER THAN ME,
MATE"





*THAT SETTLED, THE GAMES BEGAN IN EARNEST.



"EACH GAME--EVERY PARTICIPANT--EVALUATED BY THE EXALIBUR QUARTET."



"WITH VARYING DEGREES OF ENTHUSIASM."

"AS THE FAY WORE ON..."

"A PATTERN
EMERGED."



"INvariably, ONCE THE DUST SETTLED
AND THE WINNER WAS ANNOUNCED ..."

"... ONE OF THE SAME THREE
CLAIMED THE PRIZE . "



WHO YOU
TRYING TO
FOOL
RED?

YOU LEARNED
THOSE MOVIES
WATCHING ME
FIGHT.

AND
BESIDES WE'RE
ROOM-MATES.

TAKE
MORE 'N A MASK
TO DISGUISE YOU
FROM ME, RACHEL
SUMMERS.



QUESTION IS
WHY ASSUME IT
IN THE FIRST
PLACE?

WHAT'S UP,
THAT YOU
SHOULD HIDE
YOURSELF
FROM YOUR
FRIENDS...

--AND HOW LONG
SHOULD I LET
YOU GET AWAY
WITH IT?





HAH!

KNEW IT
WAS RACHEL
PHOENIX
FROM THE
START!

OF
COURSE
YOU DID,
SWEET-
LAD

YOUR OFFICIAL
"NO-PRIZE" IS IN
THE MAIL.

NIGHTFALL
BROUGHT ANOTHER
FORM OF COMBAT
TO THE GAMES.

INSTEAD
OF FEATS OF
STRENGTH...

...IT WAS WHO
COULD DRINK
WHOM INTO
OBLIVION.

...OR SING
THE SWEETEST
SONG.

OR TELL
THE BEST
STORY...



"AND WHEREVER THE MOOD
WAS MOST JOYOUS..."

"...THERE YOU'D
FIND MEGGAN."

"ALMOST AS
THOUGH SHE WAS SOME-
HOW THEIR INSPIRATION."



THEY'RE
RIGHT TO
CHEER
YOU.

THAT WAS
MAGNIFICENT--
AS ARE YOU.

I'VE
NEVER SEEN
YOU MORE
LOVELY.



I'M BUT A
REFLECTION
OF THIS WORLD,
MY LIONHEART..

ALL ITS
BEAUTY AND
PASSION AND
LIFE SO LONG
ENCHAINED--



--DESPERATELY
YEARNING FOR
RELEASE...

...THROUGH
ME.



WHY WON'T YOU WORK?

EVERY OTHER GIZMO'S HAPPILY GULPING "JUICE" FROM MY SOLAR CELLS, WHY NOT YOU?

C'MON, WIDGET, I'VE GOT ALL THIS LOVELY JUNK FOR YOU TO EAT.

CAN'T I TEMPT YOU, EVEN A LITTLE?



NO JOY?

NOPE.

OH MY!

ER, AH... WELL? KOP? YES...

...THIS CERTAINLY IS A BIT--

DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME.

IT'S WHY I CHANGED BACK INTO COSTUME.



KYMR! INSISTED.

I'M SURE.

IS WIDGET...?

HE SEEMS TO RESONATE TO WHAT-- FOR WANT OF A BETTER TERM-- CAN BEST BE CALLED "MAGIC."

DEAD? HOPE NOT. DON'T THINK SO.



THE MORE INTENSE THE ELDRITCH ENERGY FIELD, THE MORE SENSITIVE HIS SYSTEMS BECOME.

CONVERSELY, IN A WORLD LIKE THIS-- WHERE THERE'S NONE TO SPEAK OF-- HE SHUTS DOWN.

MAKES SENSE. THERE'S SUFFICIENT NATIVE MANNA TO SUSTAIN CAPEND MEG-GAN, BUT WIDGET NEEDS SOME-- THING MORE.



PHOENIX, PERHAPS? SHE'S POWERED HIM ALL ALONG.

IN FACT, SINCE HER POWER APPEARS TO EMANATE FROM A CELESTIAL SOURCE, SHE SHOULDN'T-- WHOOPS!

MUST DASH, KITTY, SORRY!

HAVE A NICE TIME.



WISH IT WAS WITH ME.

HE'S RIGHT, THOUGH. OF US ALL, RAY AT LEAST SHOULD'VE REGAINED HER POWERS.

BUT HAVE WE THE RIGHT TO ASK HER TO BECOME PHOENIX?

MAYBE THE UNIVERSE IS BETTER OFF IF SHE STAYS AS SHE IS. MAYBE THAT'S WORTH OUR BEING MAROONED HERE? IN THE END, IS THAT SO AWFUL A FATE?!



WHAT'S THAT?

IT CAME FROM EXCALIBUR'S CONVEYANCE!



SLAIN!

MY SHADOWCAT AND HER COMPANIONS...

--STRUCK DOWN BY AN ASSASSIN!



NO PULSE, NO PUPILARY REACTION--

--SOME FORM OF CELLULAR DISRUPTION...

...FRIES THE NERVOUS SYSTEM WITHOUT LEAVING A PHYSICAL MARK.

SOUND THE ALARM, ROUSE THE CAMP--

--THE OTHERS MUST BE WARNED!



COMRADES --THERE!

TO MY SIDE, FRIENDS --HURRY!



I WAS TOO LATE TO SAVE THE NOBLE CAPTAIN FROM THIS BACK-STABBING WITCH--

--BUT I SWORE TO SPEND MY LIFE TO PREVENT HER ESCAPE!

BRIAN, NO...YOU MUSTN'T DIE--

--YOU CAN'T!



ASSASSIN--

-- YOUR
MOMENT
HAS
COME!

STAND ASIDE,
COMRADE! YOU'VE
MORE THAN DONE
YOUR PART--



-- LEAVE
THE REST
TO ME!

KANG



I'M NOT THE
ASSASSIN,
LOCKHEED!

IDIOT, YOU'RE
DOING HIS WORK
FOR HIM!

YOU
EXPECT
ME TO
BELIEVE...



... SOME-
ONE WHO
HIDES
HER
FACE?

HER
VOICE--!



THAT SILHOUETTE
AGAINST THE
FLAMES.

LOCKHEED,
STOP!

SHE'S
TELLING THE
TRUTH. SHE'S
A FRIEND!



BUT A LIAISON,
THAT MEANS--!

AGGGH!

TOO LATE,
MISTER AND
MISSY.

THE DEEP'S
DONE.

AND YOUR
PATHETIC LIVES,
AS WELL.





THE ONLY WAY IT COULD, SILLY GOOSE--

--HAPPILY EVER AFTER!

RACHEL ACCEPTED MEGGAN'S CHALLENGE-- AND USED HER POWER (WHICH SHE'D POSSESSED ALL ALONG, SUBCONSCIOUSLY DENYING ITS USE)...

"...IN THE PROCESS HEALING ALL!

"LOCKHEED (THE BIG ONE) AND KYMRI JOINTLY TOOK ON THE MANTLE OF CHAMPION.

"AND THE WHOLE MESS WAS DULY CELEBRATED...

"...TO CATALYZE THE LATENT ENERGY OF THE WORLDSPIRIT (EMBODIED THROUGH MEGGAN), RELEASING IT BACK INTO BOTH PLANET AND PEOPLE...

"...BY THE BIGGEST, RUDEST BASH THAT OLD WORLD (OR PRETTY MUCH ANY OTHER, FOR THAT MATTER), HAD EVER SEEN!"

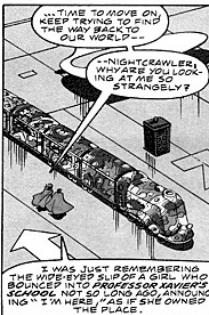
WHICH BRINGS US, I'M AFRAID...

"...WELL AND TRULY TO THE END!"

THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED, KATZCHEN...

"...BUT HARDLY THE END.

IT'S BEEN FUN, FOLKS. TILL NEXT TIME!



SWORD STOKES

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
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New York, New York 10016

TERRY KAVANAUGH
EDITOR
KELLY CORVSE
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Attention correspondents: If you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

Dear EXCALIBUR,

I want to praise your work on EXCALIBUR #12. As always, Davis, Neary and Oliver's work was spectacular and the cover was really eye-catching, to say the least. I loved the story and I'll be counting the days till my next trip to the comic store.

Aside from that, I also want to ask a few questions. First, I'd like to hear more about Phoenix's origin, including her brother and her mother, Jean Grey. Second, will Excalibur find out that the X-Men aren't really dead?

I hope that the problems between Captain Britain, Courtney Ross Kurt and Meggan got solved. I like these characters and would hate to see jealous rivalries erupt between them. I'll also enjoy seeing the relationship between Alistair, Kitty, Phoenix and Prince William grow. Otherwise, I love EXCALIBUR. Keep up the good work! Excelsior!

Ronda Velez
(Address withheld by request)

We will be learning more about Phoenix in the upcoming months, Ronda, and Excalibur's knowledge of the fate of the X-Men will be broadened very soon—just keep reading! The interpersonal relationships of our cast are still due for some twists and turns, so be prepared! Thanks for your praise, Ronda!

Dear Forgers of the Sword,

EXCALIBUR is a wonderful comic book. Chris Claremont, Alan Davis, Paul Neary and the rest of the crew have done a superb job. My congratulations to you.

Issue #12 was excellent! Excalibur does well as a team. I liked how Lockheed took care of Billy, Nigel Frobisher is probably scared out of his wits now, Butch the Ogre was much of a match for Captain Britain and Phoenix, and that was a nice twist there at the end.

I know Kitty is in her teens but I get the impression that she's older and that she and Phoenix are about the same age.

I've noticed that Phoenix gets knocked out of the game easily; she's too powerful for that!

Since I am new to the Marvel Universe, I have some questions:

1) When will we see the origin of Excalibur?

2) Will Widgeot become a full-fledged member of Excalibur?

3) How are Phoenix's powers related to Jean Grey's?

4) How is Phoenix related to Cyclops and Havok?

Well, until Billy beats Lockheed, Make Mine Marvel!

Jimmy Mayer
121 Bettis Lane
Kingston, TN 37763

The answers to your queries, Jimmy—

1) You can still purchase a copy of the EXCALIBUR Bookshelf Format comic that shows the first gathering of our group of heroes at your local comic shop!

2) Yes.

3) Rachel is the daughter of an alternate timeline Jean Grey. For a full explanation on Phoenix check out her entry

in THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE TRADE PAPERBACK; once again at your local comic shop.

4) Ditto!

Dear Sword Stokes,

CAPTAIN BRITAIN (kap'ten bri' ton), n.

1. A character in EXCALIBUR; a.k.a. Brian Braddock.

2. A slimbucket; scum; someone who possesses no backbone; creep; jerk; dirt-bag.

3. One who is boorish, drunken, conceited, overbearing, cruel and unoriginal.

4. A pig; swine; worm (lower than); rat; slug.

5. An insensitive, thoughtless, selfish, shallow person.

Slang: Banana-mush-brain, Captain Callous, a typical man, Bonehead, Wonder Wimp, Doorknob, Mr. Unprepared (costume wise), Pencil Neck, Pea Brain, Stinky, Dead Meat, *#!%\$!!!

Meggan fans everywhere
(Address withheld by request)

And on the flip side . . .

Dear Marvel,

I object to the sentiment in recent letters regarding Captain Britain more heroic. I am tired of heroes being cut out of the Captain America mold and appreciate Captain Britain because he is Marvel's only male bimbo super hero. If anything, play up his idiosyncrasies.

By the way, I know he works out and all, but given the amount of alcohol he consumes shouldn't his costume be getting a bit tight around the midsection? Think of all the fun Rachel and Kitty would have teasing him about "love handles."

Keep up the great work!

Scott Cohen
(Address also withheld)

Submitted for your approval, two completely opposite views on the subject, Brian Braddock. Which one is more valid? We leave it to you the readers to decide in—The Letters Page Zone!

Dear EXCALIBUR,

I've been reading since issue #1, and I must say—I Love It!

Any book that goes to such lengths for the sake of humor is a welcome addition to my collection. The question marks from everyone in the last panel of #12 was a great spot. . . especially the one from Butch, the Ogre, who was out cold not four panels before.

One thing I do appreciate is the fact that Kitty is finally growing up physically, she's finally being drawn as a young woman instead of a spindly kid. Women in the comics usually don't age, but in #12, page 16, panel 1, she looks twentyish as opposed to the teenager she usually looks like. Thanks. By the way, Kitty, I don't see what you're worrying about. I think you're much more attractive than Ray.

If you were real, I'd chase you!
Keep up the good work, gang!

Sam Signorelli
(Address withheld by request again)

Well Sam, we don't think Kitty would mind you chasing her, but we do think she might mind you thinking she's so old! Kitty is still pretty young but she does act mature for her age, what with all the things she's been through, but twentyish? Sheesh!

To the crew of EXCALIBUR,

Bravo! Rarely can a comic make me laugh out loud! Part one of the "Cross-Time Caper" had me in marvelously merry mirth through most of the book!

I must say that the Ogre was brilliantly done. The banter between him and Captain Britain was priceless, a refreshing change from the bad dialogue many villains and heroes usually end up tossing back and forth.

It was a great pleasure to see Lockheed taking an active role in the story. He had been relegated to a supporting role for too long. Any chance of doing a story sometime of Lockheed off on his own? Or at least one told from his point of view?

Lastly, it was good to see Meggan finally feeling comfortable with her surroundings. Could this really be her true home? Y'know it really wouldn't be too bad if the team got stuck in this dimension, there is more than enough story potential to last for a long time. I can just see Night crawler letting his mischievous side out and taking full advantage of his appearance.

Paul J. Blotkamp
4005 Belspring Road
Chesler, VA 23831

NEXT ISSUE:

CHRIS CLAREMONT AND GUEST PENCILER DENNIS JENSEN TAKE EXCALIBUR TO A WORLD STRAIGHT OUT OF A JAPANESE ANIMATED FILM -- WHERE STOKES IS THE MEASURE OF A HERO!

WHAT DO YOU
MEAN ALAN DAVIS
WON'T BE DRAWING
ME NEXT ISSUE?!

